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In support of this indication, the IPEA/US refers to its comments on claims 4 and 11 and states

as follows:

"As per claim 4, Vin et al. teach a teleconferencing system essentially as claimed, comprising:

a) a plurality of stations [fig. A "workstation"]

b) a first network for carrying data [fig. A "data"]

c) at least a second display for displaying visual images [fig. 7A "monitor"]

d) AV path for video [p.70 fig. A "analog video and audio"]; . . .

As per claim 11, Vin et al. teaches a conference manager for data and an AV conference manager

["Phoenix," "Macaw," fig. 7A "video manager," see pp. 72-74]."

Applicant respectfully disagrees and as discussed below, does not believe the claimed invention

is obvious as suggested.

In particular and as the Examiner is aware "[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed

invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka,

490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)." MPEP, 6th Edition, §2143.03.

The Vin apparatus does not disclose the elements of the invention as claimed. At a minimum,

Vin does not disclose an AV conference manager which utilizes the data network operating

system and protocol as claimed in claim 2. Indeed, it cannot.

The Vin apparatus is a patchwork of three prior systems -- the Etherphone, Macaw and Phoenix

systems. It borrows data (first) and digital voice control (second) networks from the Etherphone

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system and patches onto this the analog video (third) network from the Macaw system. There

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is no disclosure of using the data network operating system and protocol during an AV

conference.

Furthermore, at an absolute minimum, the Vin arrangement requires two conventional digital

network connections (from the Etherphone system) plus a "coax" video network connection

(from the Macaw system) at each workstation. Thus a minimum of three networks and

associated connections are required.

This patchwork arrangement uses the Macaw system for analog video while digital audio is

provided by the Phoenix 64kBps digital audio extension on page 78, third column, second

complete paragraph ("Since our system transmits digital audio and analog video,...) and cannot

support the claimed configuration.

For these reasons, therefore, the independent claims are submitted to be non-obvious and

patentable.

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Accordingly, it is believed that the dependent claims are patentable as well (MPEP 6th Ed. § 2143.03). If the Examiner is of the opinion that the allowance of the claims can be expedited by a conference, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG P. OPPERMAN-

Reg. No. 37,078

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Cooley Godward Castro Huddleson & Tatum Five Palo Alto Square 3000 El Camino Real Palo Alto, CA 94306-2155

Telephone: (415) 843-5000

Facsimile: (415) 857-0663